

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace the previous version, and the listing of claims:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A cylinder head gasket, comprising:

one metal plate for forming the gasket having a cylinder bore, and a folded portion formed around the cylinder bore and having a largest thickness in the gasket, a liquid hole and a half bead formed around the liquid hole, and

a paint coating formed on at least one side of the metal plate outside the folded portion without overlapping thereto for forming a surface pressure thereat, said paint coating having a hardness of 2H-6H in pencil hardness without foaming and being formed around the folded portion to form a first paint coating therearound and also formed on and around the half bead surrounding the liquid hole outside the first paint coating to form a second paint coating therearound, said second paint coating having a thickness less than that of the first paint coating,

wherein said half bead forms an inner portion and an outer portion relative to the liquid hole so that when the gasket is tightened, surface pressures on the gasket are arranged such that the folded portion is greater than the inner portion; the inner portion is greater than the first paint coating; and the first paint coating is greater than the outer portion.

2-13. (cancelled)

OK to enter, JP 9-1305